29th August 1961]

Madras State Electricity Board

* 282 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state the amount spent on the purchase of stores by the Madras Electricity Board during the years 1958–59 and 1959–60 and the agency through which the purchases were made?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Stores, other than heavy plant and machinery directly charged to works in projects, worth Rs. 787 lakhs and Rs. 680·1 lakhs were purchased in 1958–59 and 1959–60 respectively. Stores other than cement and steel were purchased by placing orders direct on the firms after calling for tenders. Cement and steel were purchased through the India Stores Department and Iron and Steel Controller, respectively.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, is there a Purchases Committee?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I have no information.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to find out whether the purchases are made on the recommendation of the Purchases Committee, if it exists?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : I want notice, Sir.

* 283 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(*a*) the method adopted by the Madras State Electricity Board to secure supplies of concrete posts for the current year; and

(*b*) the rate at which each variety of post is being obtained?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) Concrete posts required by the Board are mainly manufactured departmentally. Extra requirements are obtained from contractors selected on the basis of open tenders.

(*b*) The estimated cost of departmental manufacture excluding overhead charges are—

(i) 20 feet pole—Rs. 37.

(ii) 24 feet pole—Rs. 65 to 70.

(iii) 27 feet pole—Rs. 82.

(iv) 30 feet pole—Rs. 103.

If the departmental overhead charges are added, the departmental cost of manufacture of 24 feet length poles would vary between Rs. 75 and 80 per pole.

The contract rate for 24 feet length poles for which orders have been placed for supply during the current year is Rs 75 per pole.